



1996-

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON SEVEN SEVEN
NAVAL AIR STATION ATLANTA
1000 HALSEY AVE
MARIETTA GEORGIA 30060-5099

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5750

Ser N30/i77

APR 17 1997

From: Commanding Officer, Airborne Early Warning Squadron
SEVEN SEVEN

To: Director of Naval History

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Biography of CDR T. D. Lindsey
(2) Biography of CDR C. P. Valliere

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) and the following information are submitted:

a. Command Composition and Organization. Airborne Early Warning Squadron SEVEN SEVEN's (VAW-77) primary mission is to serve as a counter-narcotics command control platform in our nation's war on drugs. The command falls under the administrative control of Carrier Air Wing Reserve TWO ZERO based out of NAS Atlanta. The squadron routinely deploys throughout the United States and Caribbean. Once deployed, the command will normally fall under the operational control of Joint Interagency Task Force East or United States Southern Command. The command is a Naval Reserve squadron based out of Naval Air Station Atlanta, Marietta, GA, flying four Northrop Grumman E-2C Hawkeye aircraft. Commander Claude P. Valliere, a Selected Reservist, is the Commanding Officer. Squadron manning is made up of 18 full time Training and Administration of the Reserves (TAR) officers and 15 enlisted, 24 Selected Reserve officers and 10 enlisted, and 34 Northrop Grumman contractor personnel who perform maintenance on the aircraft.

b. Chronology

(1) 07 - 09 Jan 96 - Missile Exercise with MAG-49.

(2) 17 - 22 Mar 96 - Counter Narcotic Training in Savannah, GA with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI).

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(3) 18 Apr 96 - Counter Narcotic Training Missions with the United States Coast Guard Aviation Training Center located in Mobile, AL.

(4) 05 May 96 - 03 July 96 - Counter Narcotic Missions with Joint Interagency Task Force East (JIATF EAST) and Tactical Support Center (TSC), Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

(5) 14 - 21 Aug 96 - Counter Narcotic Missions in support of SEAD, DEA and OPBAT in the Bahamas LEA operational theater.

(6) 17 Sept 96 - Provided SAR alert services for Space Shuttle Mission-79 (STS-79).

(7) 17 Oct 96 - 15 Dec 96 - Counter Narcotic Missions with Joint Interagency Task Force East (JIATF EAST) and Tactical Support Center (TSC), Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

(8) 27 Jan 97 - 01 Feb 97 - Counter Narcotic Missions in support of SEAD, DEA and OPBAT in the Bahamas LEA operational theater.

(9) 11 Feb 97 - Provided SAR alert services for Space Shuttle Mission-80 (STS-80).

(10) 11 Feb 97 - VAW-77 received USCG Meritorious Unit Commendation

(11) 26 Feb - 4 Mar 97 - Counter Narcotic Training in Savannah, GA with the Georgia Bureau Investigations.

2. Narrative. The Nightwolves have had a successful first year of operations. We've been involved in numerous verifications of new tactics for the E-2C Hawkeye and at the same time have had great success in the war on drugs. Our deployments have been marked by multiple seizures and subsequent destruction of marijuana, cocaine and other illegal drugs as well as the vehicles transporting these substances. These successes enabled the squadron to earn the Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation.



B. P. CUTCHEN
By direction

Commander Lindsey, a native of (b) (6), graduated from the United States Naval Academy in May 1979. Following a six-month tour with Naval Recruiting District Albuquerque, he received orders to flight training. He was designated a Naval Aviator in August 1981.

His first assignment was flying the C-2A GREYHOUND with the "FOO DOGS" of VRC-50, forward deployed to NAS Cubi Point, Republic of the Phillippines, in support of Seventh Fleet operations from Adak, Alaska to Djibuti, Africa. He served as officer-in-charge of two carrier based detachments stationed in the Arabian Sea during the Iranian Crisis.

In 1984 Commander Lindsey transitioned to the E-2C HAWKEYE, reporting for instructor duty to the VAW-110 FIREBIRDS at NAS Miramar, California. There, he served as the Fleet Multi-engine Instrument Syllabus Instructor, FRS E-2C NATOPS Instructor/Evaluator, and the Fleet Pilot Training Officer, where he developed the AIRPAC Naval Flight Officer (NFO) Co-pilot Carrier Qualification syllabus.

Commander Lindsey was released from Active Duty in December 1986 and affiliated with the Naval Reserve in January 1987, drilling with VAW-0285, the VAW-110 Reserve Augmentation Unit, as an instructor.

In July 1989, Commander Lindsey reported to the "AUGER DOGGERS" of VAW-1086 at NAS Norfolk, Virginia. From there he transferred to the "FIGHTING ESCARGOTS" of VAW-78. He has served as a Squadron Safety, Training, and Maintenance Department Head.

Commander Lindsey has logged over 7,000 total flight hours with more than 2,500 in C-2A/E-2C aircraft, and over 200 carrier landings on 11 aircraft carriers. His decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (with gold star), Meritorious Unit Commendation (three awards), Navy Battle "E", National Defense Medal, Sea Service Deployment, and the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon (two awards).

Commander Lindsey is married to the former (b) (6) of (b) (6). They have three children, (b) (6) and (b) (6) and make their home in (b) (6).

Commander Valliere was born and raised in (b) (6). Following graduation from high school he earned an NROTC scholarship and attended the University Of Rochester, Rochester, New York, receiving a Bachelors degree and commission in May 1980. Upon commissioning he was assigned to the staff of Commander Patrol Wings Atlantic, where he spent several months with VP-8 while awaiting flight training in Pensacola, Florida. He completed basic flight training in 1981 and was selected for the E-2C program then reported to VAW-120 in Norfolk, Virginia. In March 1982, he was designated a Naval Flight Officer and received his wings.

His first assignment was with the "Steel Jaws" of VAW-122 in Norfolk, Virginia, from 1982 to 1985, where he made three deployments aboard the USS Independence. While on these deployments, the Steel Jaws played major roles in operations in Beirut, Grenada, Indian Ocean and the North Atlantic. He served as the Public Affairs Officer, Quality Assurance Officer and NATOPS Officer. In 1985 he was transferred to the "Greyhawks" of VAW-120 as instructor and Fleet Project Team representative for the E-2C training devices.

Commander Valliere was released from active duty following his tour at VAW-120 in September 1987 and affiliated with the Naval Reserve the following month where he reported to "Auger Doggers" of VAW-1086 in Norfolk, Virginia. While assigned to VAW-1086 he served as the NATOPS Officer primarily training Naval Flight Officers who had transitioned from other aircraft. In September 1990, he was transferred to the "Fighting Escargot" of VAW-78 also in Norfolk, Virginia where he served as the NATOPS Officer, Administrative Department Head and Maintenance Department Head. In January 1997, he was reassigned to the Night Wolves of VAW-77 in Atlanta, Georgia, as the Executive Officer.

He has logged over 2500 hours in the E-2C "Hawkeye." His decorations include the Navy Commendation Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Battle Efficiency Award (three), Navy Expeditionary Medal (three), National Defense Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Sea Service Ribbon (three) and Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon.

Commander Valliere is married to the former (b) (6) of (b) (6). They have four children, (b) (6) and currently reside in (b) (6).